selected stories from www.anarchistnews.org



Best of the Anarchist Tubes

The goal of anarchistnews.org is to provide a non-sectarian source for news about and of concern to anarchists. It is also to provide a location for community moderated discussion about such news.

original publication and author given when available

Everything has bias.

Compiled for October 2009

vol 2, 9

The bias of anarchistnews.org is to promote an anarchist culture by providing a source of news and commentary about and of interest to anarchists. The goal is not to advocate for a particular anarchist practice but to serve a general anarchist need.

I Left My Heart in Pittsburgh

Another summit. Another protest. Another flurry of personal accounts and critiques. This is how the milieu proceeds—at an erratic pace, shedding its relevance to anything but itself as if it were an undue weight.

A meeting of world leaders is a good excuse to wild out. A "vacation," as some, myself included, began to conceive it. It is a chance to experience those moments we are denied in our everyday lives, an opportunity to see faraway friends, and a place where we can leave behind our monotonous daily concerns. All the while, the summit protest is imbued with an intense political significance, as if it were the epitome of all resistance to capitalism.

And with the exception of the risk of arrest and the general lack of amenities, practically every aspect of the anarchist summit-protest experience resembles a bourgeois leisure trip. Almost as if we were at Club Med, we sit around and wait for the next scheduled activity (in our case a march instead of a guided tour or a massage), and then return home to drink beers and talk in excited tones about all the crazy shit we saw that day. And just like any vacationer, we interrupt the local's lives during each of our outings with a characteristic arrogance—justified by our radicalism instead of the tourist's fat pocketbook.

Of course, after the action the appropriate concerns are raised:

"Why did people attack Boston Market?"
"Did you see the faces of the people inside? They looked like they were running for their lives..."
"And someone attacked the only mom-and-pop restaurant on the block, and missed the Starbucks!"

The content of these concerns are secondary. Fuck Boston Market. And everyone knows that so-called mom-andpop stores are often just as exploitative as their corporate counterparts.

Rather, the important part of these concerns is who they are spoken to: not in explanation to those scared shitless by rocks coming through the window next to them, but to others within our milieu. We have been enveloped in a radical culture that cares about nothing except its own maintenance. Accordingly, we listen to each other talk and feel like we are a part of this supposed movement. We are so entangled in our obscure discourse that any potentially sympathetic outsider listening in can do nothing more than adopt a silent and polite smile. And they withdraw completely once we start talking about "negating the totality" or when we laugh at one of our numerous inside jokes. I saw this all happen, multiple times, during the past week in Pittsburgh.

Much more at http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/9782

The Case May Be Settled but the Score Is Not

Regarding The State of Minnesota v. Christina Vana & Karen Meissner

Today, the chains were not lifted from our friends lives', but perhaps the weight of their bonds are more defined, more certain. Today, Tuesday, September 1st, 2009, Christina Vana and Karen Meissner pled guilty to felony assault in the 2nd degree, for their part in the massive demontrations during the 2008 RNC in St. Paul, Minnesota. They received a plea deal, with the State agreeing to grant them a Stay of Imposition (meaning the felony charge will be dropped to a misdemeanor after succesful completion of probation), a maximimum of 90 days jail time, and the possibility of doing Sentence to Serve as a jail alternative. They face up to 7 years probation. This was a departure from the sentencing guidelines, which would normally call for prison time. Their Sentencing is on Tuesday, November 10th, 2009, at 1:30 p.m in front of Judge Warner at the Ramsey County Courthouse. Please show up and make court a slighty more festive endeavor!

There are several ways to view a plea agreement. From one perspective, it is a generous offer from the State, when they have the ability and intention to quench any inkling of resistance and throw us in jail. On the other hand, when we take a deal instead of going to trial, we participate in our own prosecution. It's just a step away from locking ourselves into our own jail cells. That's not to say we aren't forced into these situations, and when we can keep ourselves or friends out of jail without incriminating others, it's a wise decision.

Despite the judge's praise of the many supporter's cooperative behavior, let's not forget that our outward docility is just a façade, a strategic decision and a postponement of our true feelings towards the cops and courts. It makes a Judge's job much easier if we sit back quietly while the "fair and impartial" trial railroads free human beings. Of course a Prosecutor will appreciate our silence as he slanders our friends to their faces, drags our names through the mud and convicts us with a Powerpoint Presentation.

•••

Tomorrow Dave Mahoney will be released from captivity, but the jails are still filled with kindred spirits. The Milwaukee Three's cases may be resolved, but their convictions and the evidence mentioned by the prosecution will be used to vilify and prosecute the RNC 8. Jesse James Forrey faces up to 5 years in jail after being convicted of property damage in St. Paul. We'll need all the strength and support we can muster in the coming months and years. The path of resistance is a rocky one that rambles on, but for ourselves, our wild companions and wilder creatures, we'll

keep stumbling forward and perhaps find pieces of a world we want.

Those who know Christina and Karen are encourage to write character letters to the Judge, requesting a sentence with no jail time. These must be addressed to The Honorable Judge Teresa Warner, Ramsey County Court and can be sent as an attachment to helpmkegirls@gmail.com, or inquire by email where to mail or fax letters. Also feel free to donate any amount to help with Karen and Christina's legal costs, estimated at \$40,000, via their website.

More at http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/9542

Ontario: Two Anarchists Arrested in Struggle against Development

A Statement of Solidarity

At roughly 2:15 AM on September 1st 2009, two anarchists were arrested in Downtown Guelph for alleged anti-police graffiti. That night, three people were putting up anti-development posters downtown. The context in which this occurred is following a three week occupation of the Hanlon Creek Business Park (HCBP) development. Since the occupation, a social event was held against the HCBP where a tobacco burning ceremony took place at the site with two comrades from Tyendinaga. Dozens of signs were redecorated/defaced for all kinds of developments across the city. Development equipment was stolen from the proposed HCBP site and the trenches were re-dug across the new roads being built at the site. While taking into account the history of resistance to progress in Guelph, this occupation has created turmoil in City Hall and has also sparked a long coming social struggle against development.

•••

When these people went out to poster, it was with a clear understanding of the possibility of surveillance and harassment. In the synopsis read in bail court on Tuesday, it was stated that the three people putting up posters were spotted multiple times over a couple hours before two of them were arrested. It was also stated in court that people who matched the same description as those putting up posters were also decorating the city with graffiti like "dead cops" and "ACAB" (which, according to the cop's research, stands for "All Cops Are Bastards"). It was also appar-

ent that most of the surveillance was done by taxi drivers. Those arrested were interrogated and both people remained silent and non-cooperating. The two comrades are each charged with three counts of "mischief under \$5000" for the graffiti and one is also charged with obstruction.

•••

More at http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/9654

Anarchists Arrested in Belgrade

from www.anarchistblackcat.org

Belgrade: anarchists arrested; state attorney seeks international terrorism charge A group of six anarchists arrested under suspicion being connected with Black Elijah (Crni Ilija), which took responsibility for the 24th August molotov attack on the Greek embassy in Belgrade.

The anarchists are members of the Sindikalna konfederacija Anarhosindikalistička inicijativa (Union Confederation Anarcho-Syndicalist Initiative) which is affiliated to the International Workers' Association (IWA-AIT).

The IWA-AIT Secretariat has made the following statement: We are informing you that members of the Union Confederation "Anarcho-syndicalist initiative", Ratibor Trivunac (who is currently delegated to the duty of IWA-AIT General Secretary), Tadej Kurepa and Ivan Vulovic have been arrested today (September, 3rd) under the fabricated charges of "causing general public danger", after they were forcefully taken in for interrogation by the police. It is yet unconfirmed if other comrades were arrested.

We are trying to get in contact with their lawyers and to establish what are the exact charges against them and their legal status. We will keep you informed of the developments.

IWA-AIT Secretariat, Belgrade, 3rd September 2009

The media later reported that the arrested are Ratibor Trivunac, Tadej Kurepa, Ivan Vulović, Sanja Đokić, Ivan Savić and Nikola Mitrović.

The judge will do hearings today and also decide about charges. State attorney has asked for them to be charged with the criminal act of international terrorism (3-15 years of prison).

http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/9662

Bomb Hits Athens Stock Exchange

From BBC

A bomb has exploded outside the Athens stock exchange, slightly injuring a female passer-by and damaging the building, police say.

The bomb - which set fire to several cars - was hidden in a stolen van.

Another bomb went off outside a government building in Thessaloniki, causing minor damage and no injuries.

The blasts may be the work of a Greek extremists' group, Revolutionary Struggle, says the BBC's Malcolm Brabant in Athens.

Earlier this year the group claimed responsibility for two bombs aimed at the American Citibank group.

A warning of the Athens explosion was telephoned to a local newspaper, enabling police to seal off the area in the west of Athens before the bomb went off.

Bomb damage outside the Athens Stock Exchange (2 September 2009)

Several cars were set on fire by the explosion, the windows at the bourse were blown out, and a neighbouring car dealership was damaged along with nearby trees and parked cars.

One passing woman was slightly injured by flying glass, but there were no injuries inside the building and the stock exchange opened as normal.

"We know for the moment that there is damage to a number of staff workstations and desks, but the core operations are up and running," a bourse spokesman told AFP.

The bomb in Thessaloniki caused minor damage around the ministry responsible for Greece's two northern provinces of Macedonia and Thrace.

In a letter to a satirical newspaper, Revolutionary Struggle had promised more attacks against economic targets.

It said: "We need to rid ourselves for good of all the scum of economic and political power so that humanity can free itself from these criminals."

Greece has been dogged by unrest since police shot a teenager dead last December. The death sparked the country's worst riots in decades, leading to clashes between police and protesters in the weeks that followed.

http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/9546

Chile: Encapuchados attack police station in Santiago

An early start to "Black September" in Chile...

A group of 'encapuchados' attack the precinct of the plainclothes investigative police (PDI) outside of the Unversidad Academia de Humanismo Cristiano (UAHC) campus in Santiago. Reports are coming in that at least two people have been arrested in connection with the attack.

Chilean police authorities continue to track down the estimated 50 hooded protesters who mobbed a Providencia police building Wednesday afternoon, leaving one detective injured and prompting a major university to close its doors. As of early Thursday morning, police had captured two suspects.

The attack on the Homicidal Brigade of the Investigations Police (PDI) - Chile's plainclothes detective force - was apparently launched in protest of the upcoming Sept. 11, 1973 coup anniversary that ousted President Salvador Allende.

During the 10-minute attack, collegeaged protestors tossed Molotov bombs, rocks and cans through the building's windows and at police officers who tried to stop them.

Violent public outbreaks are commonplace around Sept. 11 in Chile, but protestors struck days earlier than expected this year, angered by recent clashes between police and Chile's Mapuche population, the nation's largest indigenous group, in Region IX. "No more deaths will be accepted, all will be avenged," read a banner that mobbers waved, alluding to the controversial police shooting of 24-year-old Mapuche activist Jaime Mendoza Collío, who died Aug. 12 from a bullet would to the back.

Signs bore the names of Collío and anarchist Mauricio Morales Duarte, who was killed in May when a bomb he carried in his backpack exploded.

From a communique written by participants in the action:

"At the beginning of our demonstration a detective from the Homicide Brigade proceeded to attack one of our comrades, we beat him back. Because of this the rest of the detectives came out to defend him using their arms against ours. With automatic rifles, pistols, revolvers, sub machine guns and shields they tried to disperse us, but our revolutionary conviction and our rage, which make us realize that we are fighting for our people and in memory of those who

have fallen in the struggle, was stronger than their weapons.

... The PDI has characterized itself by its oppressive character as we have seen in Wall Mapu, where together with Carabineros and the army they have militarized the zone and developed a counterinsurgency to destroy the Mapuche struggle...

With rocks, Molotov cocktails, and paint bombs we confronted the bullets of the PDI, and forced them to stay locked up inside of their station..."

photos and video at: http://amoryresistencia. blogspot.com/2009/09/no-more-deaths-will-be-accepted-all.html

http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/9670

UK: Autonomous anarchists for earth liberation

from indymedia uk

Last night between midnight and 2am a group of autonomous anarchists targetted 4 buildings across central london for their continued involvement with crimes against a planet ment to be shared by all of us, not auctioned off for profit.

The world coal institute had its door handles chained together and expanding foam piped into its locks, the activists then went on to target http://E.ON (the company behind climate camp target Kingsnorth power station) with more expanding foam and graffitti reading "stop climate change now A", an indenticle attack was then aimed at D1 Oils PLC and one ore at a starbucks coffee outlet (recently slated in the media for keeping their taps running 24 hours a day)

Whilst their has been speculation about this being misinformation i assure you these attacks DID happen, whilst the graffitti may well have been scrubbed off this morning the activits did their best to make sure that no one would be able to enter the buildings and cause even more attrocities today.

Autonomous activists for earth liberation

http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/9537

Hitting the Whole Olympic Target

The Olympics are a project used to accelerate the construction of economic infrastructure and investment. While in-

struments of social control like surveillance cameras and increased policing are installed to provide security for these investments, the infrastructure itself paves the way for further exploitation and ecological destruction in a far more efficient manner. The Olympics is a massive advertising and propaganda machine to sell British Columbia for economic development.

In each city it is held, the Olympics is a tool of capitalism, pushing forward the exploitation of people and the land, of course at the expense of the poor and the excluded. Economic development doesn't benefit 'society,' it produces and sustains an elite. But, while we don't want their scraps, there is also no use in climbing that economic ladder, for there must always be someone below. That is simply the nature of capitalism.

To target the project of the Olympics, attacks and disruption must continue to move beyond the spectacle of the Olympic games.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Opposition to the Olympics generally moves beyond the idea of the Olympics as an event, and knows it is not just made up of venue sites or athletes villages. Many people understand that the expansion of the Sea to Sky Highway and the construction of the Canada Line rapid transit line and the Vancouver Convention Centre are also connected to the Olympics; Vancouver had to promise these things in order to win the Olympic bid.

The expansion the Sea to Sky highway from Vancouver to Whistler, and highways in general, is motivated by the ability to increase transport of resources materials and consumer goods. Increasing the speed of transport contributes to increased profit, locally and internationally, therefore attracting investment. This means more mining, logging, tourism and destruction of the land and unceeded indigenous territories.

To give an idea of how this expansion project exists on a broader scale in British Columbia, we can look at the current example of Highway 97. The project dubbed the "Cariboo Connector Strategy," involves widening Highway 97 from two to four lanes between Prince George (north), and Cache Creek (south) and twinning the Simon Fraser Bridge in Prince George. This is integral to connecting the new shipping port which is under construction in Prince Rupert, with southern BC and the rest of North America.

In their own words...

The Cariboo Connector will open up the North the same way the Coquihalla opened up the Interior - Transportation Minister Kevin Falcon The Cariboo Connector strategy is going to support so many enterprises in the area, from forestry, to oil and gas to tourism to mining

- Prince George MLA Pat Bell SOCIAL CONTROL

Those who extract resources and exploit human labour, use prisons, police, private security and other systems of social control to protect their investments. They need this protection, because their interests are in contradiction with ours. Not because we want better wages, or a bigger piece of that prodigal pie, but because they control and destroy the means of our existence. We want the destruction of wage slavery, resource exploitation and all forms of subordination, in favor of the free interaction of wills, in favour of direct access to the means of our lives.

After the Olympic events are over, we will be left with surveillance cameras, coercive social and architectural restructuring (such as the Civil City bylaws), more police, private security and cross country training of security forces in counter insurgency measures.

More at http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/9718

Occupy California! Statement from the UCSC Occupiers

We are occupying this building at the University of California, Santa Cruz, because the current situation has become untenable. Across the state, people are losing their jobs and getting evicted, while social services are slashed. California's leaders from state officials to university presidents have demonstrated how they will deal with this crisis: everything and everyone is subordinated to the budget. They insulate themselves from the consequences of their own fiscal mismanagement, while those who can least afford it are left shouldering the burden. Every solution on offer only accelerates the decay of the State of California. It remains for the people to seize what is theirs.

The current attack on public education – under the guise of a fiscal emergency – is merely the culmination of a long-term trend. California's regressive tax structure

has undermined the 1960 Master Plan for free education. In this climate, the quality of K-12 education and the performance of its students have declined by every metric. Due to cuts to classes in Community Colleges, over 50,000 California youth have been turned away from the doors of higher education. California State University will reduce its enrollment by 40,000 students system wide for 2010-2011. We stand in solidarity with students across the state because the same things are happening to us. At the University of California, the administration will raise student fees to an unprecedented \$10,300, a 32 percent increase in one year. Graduate students and lecturers return from summer vacation to find that their jobs have been cut; faculty and staff are forced to take furloughs. Entire departments are being gutted. Classes for undergraduates and graduates are harder to get into while students pay more. The university is being run like a corporation.

More at http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/9755

Support G20 arrestee David Japenga!

Pack the courtroom on Wednesday Sept. 30th at 8am to support David Japenga, swept up by police during the rioting that happened in Pittsburgh due to the G20. David Japenga was arrested on Thursday and was given trumped up charges blaming him for the bulk of property destruction that happened during night-time demonstrations in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh. The police and media are looking for a scapegoat due to their embarassing inability to control demonstrations on Thursday and Friday. A judge has revoked bail for David and he is being held in Allegheny County Jail pending his formal arraignment and preliminary hearing on Wednesday.

This is a call for monetary assistance and courtroom solidarity for David. We are raising money to hire a private defense attorney and to pay his bail should be he granted it on Wednesday. If you can give any money towards his defense, email freedavidjapenga@hushmail.com or paypal it to antiracistactionstore@gmail.com.

More at http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/9767

Anarchists Attack Squad Cars at Pittsburgh Police HQ

Pittsburgh Police Cars Vandalized PITTSBURGH (KDKA) — $\,$

Sources indicate nails and screws were forced into the tires on at least a dozen marked and unmarked police cars as well as a number of private cars.

Pittsburgh Police sources say at least a dozen police cars and a number of private cars were vandalized.

Sources also confirm police investigators have substantial information to believe the crime was committed by anarchists in town for the G-20 Summit.

Police detectives took photographs and looked for evidence in the parking lot of police headquarters Thursday afternoon.

Sources indicate it is believed a number of suspected anarchists came to police headquarters late Wednesday night and damaged as many cars as possible.

Police indicate the tires cannot be plugged and must be replaced because the cars have to operate at high speeds.

Damage estimates at this time are running in the thousands of dollars.

Sources indicate the suspected anarchists came to prove to police they can do damage whenever and wherever they want.

There was no official comment regarding the incident.

http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/9710

Obituary: Jake Prescott

From Organized Rage

Jake Prescott, the only working class member of the Angry Brigade, has died.

In his 20s, he became involved with the Angry Brigade, the British militant group responsible for a string of bomb attacks against establishment figures. In 1971 he was sentenced to 15 years for conspiracy to cause bombings (later reduced to 10).

In prison Jack studied for an Open University degree and made use of the prison libraries. Following his release at the end of the 70s, he worked in citizens advice centres in Edinburgh and Sheffield.

More at http://anarchistnews.org/?q=node/9657